

MINUTES OF MEETING
State Board of Education
May 9-10, 2002

The May meeting of the State Board of Education was held in the Board Conference Room of the Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines. The following Board members were present: James Billings, Sister Jude Fitzpatrick, Greg McClain, Mary Jean Montgomery, Don Roby, Gene Vincent and Kay Wagner. Also present were Department director Ted Stilwill and Department staff members Gail Sullivan, Lee Tack, Ann McCarthy, Judy Jeffrey, Kathi Slaughter, Susan Anderson, Carol Greta, Evelyn Anderson, Sandra Renegar, Dee Ann Wilson, Jim Reese, Teresa McCune, Tom Andersen, and Bev. Adams. Also present were Dr. Bill Armstrong, Graceland University, Dr. Michelle Schiffgens, Marycrest International University, Robin Madison, Legislative Fiscal Bureau, Donna Cook, Iowa PTA, Rod Boshart, *Cedar Rapids Gazette*, Kathy Bolten, *Des Moines Register*,

Director Ted Stilwill, presiding officer, called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

It was moved by Gene Vincent and seconded by Kay Wagner to approve the agenda as written.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Department director Ted Stilwill presided over the meeting for the purpose of electing officers.

Kay Wagner nominated Gene Vincent for the office of president. Mary Jean Montgomery seconded the nomination. James Billings moved that nominations cease.

Voting aye on the nomination of Gene Vincent as president: Billings, Fitzpatrick, Montgomery, McClain, Roby, and Wagner. Gene Vincent was elected Board president and presided over the remainder of the meeting.

Don Roby nominated Sally Frudden as vice president.

Greg McClain nominated Mary Jean Montgomery as vice president.

Voting on the nomination of vice president: Aye for Frudden - Billings, Fitzpatrick, Roby, Wagner. Aye for Montgomery – McClain, Montgomery.

Sally Frudden was elected vice-president.

COMMUNICATION

Public Comment

Donna Cook, President of the Iowa Parent Teacher Association (PTA), was present to address the Board. She said that with School Board Appreciation Week approaching she felt it was the ideal time to express appreciation to Board members. We appreciate the work the Board does sometimes under very difficult circumstances and we know you have made many tough decisions. The PTA also wants to recognize the work that the State Board does to encourage for student achievement in Iowa.

Board Member Reports

Mary Jean Montgomery reported she had met recently with two different groups a total of three times representing the State Board of Education. One is the Iowa Leadership Academy and she gave a brief synopsis of the work of the Academy for the new members. The group met with Joe Murphy, national expert on leadership and preparation of school administrators, and talked about curricular content of the program and rethought large problems threaded through the teaching standards. Montgomery indicated an ICN meeting would be held on perspectives for this program.

She said she had also met with Judy Jeffrey in observing a portion of an ICN meeting with Dr. Kent Peterson of the University of Wisconsin-Madison in looking at creating state policy and program redesign. The group adjourned from the ICN meeting to work on the development of meeting the new standards for an exemplary preparation program for administrators outside of a university setting.

Montgomery indicated she had met with the governance team, a part of the Iowa Leadership Consortium funded by Wallace-Readers Digest, that is guiding a process to develop state policy and how state policy can impact leadership development, recruitment and retention to sustain strong leaders for the state of Iowa.

Don Roby indicated community colleges have had the LINC program for many years. They offered a program, "Grow Your Own Concept for Women". This program was so successful that another program was

established for men and women. Each community college may send two candidates each year.

Roby gave an overview of the Community College Council ICN meeting. The Council had heard Dr. David England, President, DMACC review the certified community college budget plan. The Council also discussed the tuition increase for community colleges and the approval of two programs at NIACC. Mr. Roby asked the Board to note the copies of the community college booklet that had been given to Board members from the Iowa Association of Community College Trustees and the Iowa Association of Community College Presidents.

Sister Jude Fitzpatrick said she was pleased to be a part of the Board of Education and looked forward to working in fulfilling the mission of this Board.

Jim Billings expressed his pleasure at being appointed to the State Board of Education and looked forward to serving in this capacity. Billings also asked what should be included in the Board member reports.

Kay Wagner reported she had attended the Area 9 Superintendents' meeting at which they reviewed some of the successful programs at the local districts. They discussed two different Goals 2000 grants relating to literacy. Other interesting subjects were smaller districts are collaborating to write curriculum

Wagner also gave an update on the June 2002 State Board Retreat. She indicated it would be held at the West Des Moines Learning Center on the dates of June 19-21 and Brenda Welburn of the National Association of State Board of Education would be the facilitator in talking about boardsmanship--charting the course.

Greg McClain indicated he had attended the I-JAG meeting and reviewed the purpose of this group for the new Board members. At this meeting, due to funding, I-JAG members voted to drop three of the fourteen sites. The decision was based on the performance of these sites. Lack of support, lower performing or inactive students were cited as reasons for the closings. I-JAG is a very successful program and he shared data from the class of 2001 to show some of the successes that students are having such as placement rate, graduation rate, etc.

McClain reported that he would be attending the telephonic NASBE Policy Leader of the Year meeting and would report on the individual selected.

He said he appreciated seeing the newspaper article that a nontraditional student had received her associate of applied science degree in

automotive mechanic technology from Northeast Iowa Community College. Mr. McClain talked about a Kansas City teacher that had failed 26 students on a test and the school board had asked that she change the grades of these students. The teacher refused and resigned. He felt local control was a concern in these types of issues. He also expressed his concern that the public school suspension rates had risen dramatically since 1974.

McClain commented on his interest in Board member attendance and the accountability of each member. Director Stilwill said a board member could not miss three consecutive regular meetings.

Gene Vincent updated the Board on his participation in the Committee on the Ted Davidson Award for selecting an outstanding local school board member. He announced that the selection would be made soon.

Director's Report

Director Stilwill reported on the furloughs the Department staff would be required to take; one-half day each on May 24 and June 7, 2002. These furloughs would assist in meeting the FY02 budget.

He also updated the Board on the indictment proceedings at Iowa Central Community College. Billings had a concern on the newspaper articles and the implication to the State Board and Department. Roby felt the governance of community colleges would be scrutinized. Stilwill said the process would show that the system works and punishment would be given.

Ted Stilwill also reported on the following topics:

- He attended a reinventing high school conference sponsored by the Chief State School Officers at Aspen Institute in Maryland.
- Vocational Education program discussion had been moved to the June State Board meeting. More clarification and specific recommendations would be provided at that time.
- Future discussion and action on the schedule of the academic eligibility rules.
- Building Inclusive Schools rules would be discussed during the federal legislative update.

Legislative Update

Ann McCarthy, legislative liaison, reviewed the education bills that had been signed by the Governor and the changes that would be taking place. McCarthy discussed the low revenue estimates and its impact. The

Revenue Estimating Conference had met and would likely meet again in June.

Director Stilwill indicated that states with heavy electronic tax filing were getting quick results on the state returns which fed into the budget shortfall. He said the stock fallout had also played an additional role in the budget reductions.

Ms. McCarthy talked about the state aid payments to school districts and some changes being discussed, but a decision had not been made by the legislature at this time.

Consent Agenda

Minutes

The minutes of the April 18, 2002 meeting were approved with the following correction to the first two paragraphs of Greg McClain's board report:

Greg McClain reported he had attended an I-JAG Board of Director's meeting. He said that John Deere has provided job shadowing experiences for I-JAG students from Expo High School in Waterloo interested in pursuing a degree in CNC Machine Programming at Hawkeye Community College.

Paraeducator Preparation Program Approval

The paraeducator preparation program submitted by Area Education Agency 7 for five years was approved.

The Northeast Iowa Community College paraeducator preparation program approval program was approved for five years.

Rules: Program Approval for Teacher Intern Preparation Programs

Sandra Renegar, Consultant, Bureau of Practitioner Preparation and Licensure said that Chapter 256.7 of the Code of Iowa provides authority for the State Board of Education to set standards and procedures for the approval of practitioner preparation programs. This new chapter governs approval of teacher intern preparation programs. Renegar indicated that the new licensure rules adopted by the Board of Educational Examiners set forth procedures for issuing a teacher intern license to an individual possessing a baccalaureate degree, enrolled in a teacher intern preparation program, and meeting other prescribed requirements. That individual may become the teacher of record in a high school during the

one year teacher internship. Four-year colleges or universities may offer a teacher intern preparation program approved by the State Board.

Dr. Renegar said the adopted rules would establish the standards required for approval of these teacher intern preparation programs. These new rules would take effect July 3, 2002.

Motion: Mary Jean Montgomery moved and Kay Wagner seconded to adopt Chapter 77, standards governing teacher intern preparation program approval rules.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Quality Teacher-Graceland's Teacher Preparation Program

Dr. Renegar, Bureau of Practitioner Preparation and Licensure consultant, introduced the Dean of the School of Education at Graceland University, Dr. Bill Armstrong. Dr. Armstrong revisited the performance-based practitioner preparation program at Graceland University. He indicated some of the program markers are 1) teaching as on-going self-improvement; 2) teaching as collegial work; and 3) a focus on student learning.

Armstrong indicated that the participating teachers take responsibility for major segments of the curriculum. The cohorts in the program benefit from the sense of community that results from being organized into a cohort for the two-year program. He pointed out that the graduate mentors are graduate faculty assigned to facilitate program organization and delivery. Dr. Armstrong shared that the efforts of Graceland University to the master's degree level. These candidates focus their study around the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards.

Mary Jean Montgomery commented about the on-line program and its merits, but felt that students still need to get together for discussions. Jim Billings questioned what drives the program's success. Armstrong said that part of the success is attributed to the fact that each cohort group designs their own curriculum based on the group's interests and needs. So you spend more time studying issues crucial to your practice, not a set of prescribed courses. The innovative curriculum is based on the 5 core propositions of the National Board of Professional Teaching standards, which means that your education is up to date with the standards established at the national level.

Dr. Armstrong thanked the Board for the opportunity to report and revisit this extremely successful program at Graceland University.

Practitioner Preparation Program Approval

Consultant Sandra Renegar presented background information on the Marycrest Practitioner Preparation program. The Chapter 79 rules have been implemented through an on-site review process that included a regularly scheduled, comprehensive visit to Marycrest University. Although Marycrest will cease operation in summer 2002, its teacher education programs have historically been of high quality. For that reason, granting reapproval, though ceremonial, will honor the contribution Marycrest has made to the quality of Iowa's teaching pool. Dr. Renegar introduced Dr. Michelle Schiffgens, in attendance representing Marycrest International University.

Motion: Mary Jean Montgomery moved reapproval of the practitioner preparation program at Marycrest International University.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Recommendation for AEA 16 Accreditation

Director Stilwill said this agenda item was appearing before the Board for full accreditation. The Board had granted partial accreditation last year as part of the regular visitation cycle. He introduced Judy Jeffrey, Administrator, Division of Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education. Jeffrey indicated that AEA 16 had received one-year accreditation for three of the original six program and service areas in its site visit of October 2000. The accreditation team revisited AEA 16 this spring and found the appropriate corrective actions had been made to receive full approval.

Motion: James Billings moved and Don Roby seconded that the recommendations submitted for AEA 16 full accreditation be approved.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Status Report from "Decreasing the Gap" Work Group

Administrator Judy Jeffrey, Division of Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education said a report had been given to the Board last fall on this work group. Jeffrey introduced Jim Reese, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of Instructional Services and Teresa McCune, Consultant, Title I, Bureau of Administration and School Improvement Services. She

indicated the Division in September 2001 organized a Cross Bureau Team, to study the challenge of differences in achievement among various groups of students in Iowa. The goal of the Team is to develop statewide strategies for addressing and ultimately reducing the achievement differences among the various groups of students.

Reese and McCune gave a powerpoint presentation explaining the progress of the “Decreasing the Gap” Work Group. Some of the highlights of the presentation were as follows:

- Operate as a study team
- Clarify the achievement gaps that exist in Iowa
- Review promising practices and evaluative criteria
- Collaborate with AEAs, LEAs, and other agencies about the challenges of reducing the achievement gap
- Develop strategies to reduce the achievement gap
- Achievement gap means: 1) unacceptable differences in school performance; 2) among different groups of students; and 3) as demonstrated by test scores, course selection, high school completion and college completion.

Jim Reese also explained some Iowa achievement data charts used in this research. Greg McClain indicated he had a concern about grade point information and using more subjective data. Mary Jean Montgomery asked why the work group was only using test scores when gender research data was available. It was felt that GPA information should be looked at for the report.

Jim Reese and Teresa McCune explained the two concepts to keep in mind as they approach the following proposed steps:

- Recognition of the problem is a necessary first step
- Requires specific, deliberate, focused action on the part of schools, their partners, and the community

Update: No Child Left Behind Act

Judy Jeffrey, Administrator, Division of Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education indicated that for several years the federal government had been working to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). This legislation covers a multitude of federal education programs that provide direction and funding to state education efforts. The act was signed into law on January 8, 2002 and is now titled No Child Left Behind (NCLB). The funds appropriated to support this legislation comprise approximately 7 percent of a total school district budget. In 1994, the ESEA established content and performance standards. This direction continues through NCLB with additional modifications and accountability provisions. Through the 1994 legislation

Iowa negotiated the “Iowa Mode” with the United States Department of Education (USDE). This model is the alignment of state policy (HF 2272 which is now part of Section 8 in Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 20 that guides the accreditation of Iowa schools and school districts) with federal mandates. This policy also creates the comprehensive school improvement plan; assessment of all students aligned with standards, and the annual reporting requirements. At this time Iowa, along with 29 other states, is working on a timeline waiver from the USDE to complete the requirements of the 1994 legislation.

Jeffrey reported that at the same time, Iowa must begin to implement NCLB. There are new regulations in the law that has implications for school districts in Iowa. A consolidated plan focusing on the new regulations and components must be filed with the United States Department of Education by June 3, 2002.

Friday, May 10

In attendance at the Friday, May Board meeting were Board members Gene Vincent, James Billings, Charles Edwards, Sister Jude Fitzpatrick, Greg McClain, and Mary Jean Montgomery. Also present were Department director Ted Stilwill and staff members Gail Sullivan, Lee Tack, Ann McCarthy, Judy Jeffrey, Carol Greta, Evelyn Andersen, Michelle Tosel, David Winans, Beverly Bunker, Su McCurdy, Jim Clark, Lana Michelson, Catherine Vance and Bev. Adams. Also present was David England, President, Des Moines Area Community College.

Update: No Child Left Behind Act (cont.)

Dave Winans, Chief, Bureau of Instructional Services handed out a chart reviewing how the No Child Left Behind Act regulations changed Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 12. He indicated that although Iowa incorporates many of the requirements of ESEA at the local level rather than the state level (i.e., content standards, goal setting for student achievement and assessment measures) districts across Iowa continue to demonstrate that this work meets the federal requirements.

Winans discussed the new federal requirements for school districts and Iowa and the basic differences between federal programs in the 1994 ESEA legislation and the 2002 NCLB legislation. The Department of Education is striving to provide Iowa schools with appropriate technical assistance with regard to Iowa’s commitment to meet the demands of its timeline waiver for ESEA 1994 and new requirement for NCLB 2002.

Program Approvals

Evelyn Anderson, Chief, Bureau of Community Colleges, introduced the following programs for Northeast Iowa Community College:

Postsecondary program through Northeast Iowa Community College – Human Services Generalist (New Program)

Postsecondary program through Northeast Iowa Community College – Cosmetology (Change in Length and Award)

Motion: It was moved by Jim Billings and seconded by Charles Edwards that the postsecondary program through Northeast Iowa Community College-Human Services Generalist (new program) be approved.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Motion: It was moved by Sister Jude Fitzpatrick and seconded by Jim Billings to approve the postsecondary program through Northeast Iowa Community College-Cosmetology (change in length and award).

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Rules: Iowa Teaching Standards

Judy Jeffrey, Division Administrator, Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education, explained that Senate File 476, Student Achievement and Teacher Quality Program, established the Iowa Teaching Standards. The Department was required to establish model criteria for the standards. She indicated a work group was formed that represented many stakeholders affected by the standards. Dr. Tom McGreal served as a consultant to the project. Ms. Jeffrey provided an update on field response to the draft criteria resulting from public hearings. The feedback from the hearings was positive and supportive, the largest concern was with the implementation of the rules not the rules themselves.

Motion: Mary Jean Montgomery moved and Sister Jude Fitzpatrick seconded that the amendments to Chapter 83, Iowa Administrative Code, Teacher Quality Program, be approved.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Rules: Supplementary Weighting

Lee Tack, Administrator, Division of Financial and Information Services indicated these amendments to Chapter 97 rules establish the procedures for school districts to generate funding for resident students attending shared classes in a regional academy offered by the district and for whole grade sharing when the boards have jointly adopted a resolution to study reorganization to occurring on or before July 1, 2006. He explained there was no additional cost related to these amendments beyond the legislation.

Dr. Tack introduced Su McCurdy, Administrative Consultant, the staff member also working with school districts on these changes.

Motion: Sister Jude Fitzpatrick moved that the Board adopt for Notice of Intended Action the proposed amendments to Iowa Administrative Code, Chapter 97.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

IDEA Part C, Early Childhood Access-Update

Jim Clark, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of Children, Family and Community Services presented this agenda item. He explained that since 1986 Iowa had been a recipient of federal funding under The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Part C. This federal discretionary grant program is intended to support the implementation of a statewide, comprehensive, coordinated, multidisciplinary, interagency system of early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities and those with developmental delays. The Department of Education is the governor designated lead agency in this system. Other signatory agencies that comprise the interagency system include the Department of Public Health, the Department of Human Services and the University of Iowa Child Health Specialty Clinics. An interagency agreement defining the financial and service commitments of the lead agency and other signatory agencies is in the process of being finalized in accordance with the requirements of federal regulations. Implementation guidelines are also in the process of being developed to assist local and regional implementation. Administrative rules are an essential infrastructure needed to ensure continuity of services in the interagency system.

Clark indicated the plan was that these proposed rules be brought to the August 2002 State Board meeting for Notice of Intended Action.

Community College Certified Budget Report

Janice Friedel, Administrator, Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation, explained that the Division staff annually prepares a Community College Certified Budget Report. She introduced Michelle Tosel, Consultant, Bureau of Community Colleges to present the report.

Tosel indicated that the annual report provides information to the Board members in their role to community college budgets as outlined in 260C.17. To meet the Iowa Code, the report on each community college's projected budget must be reviewed and approved by the Board on or prior to June 1 of each year. At the time the information for this report is requested from Iowa's 15 community colleges, state general aid appropriations, tuition revenues, and employee salaries are not finalized for the next fiscal year. Only budget estimates can be provided. In preparation of this budget, college staff must estimate revenues and expenditures for FY 2003.

Motion: It was moved by Jim Billings and seconded by Mary Jean Montgomery to approve the community college budgets as provided.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Michelle Tosel asked Dr. David England, President of Des Moines Area Community College to talk about preparing these budgets as well as what challenges Iowa's community colleges face.

Dr. England indicated that over the last two years DMACC had lost about \$2M in state aid as well as 4 percent of the budget and 11 percent of the state aid. In addition to the \$2M loss in state aid the college needed to absorb the \$2M salary increase that had already been negotiated. DMACC has taken the strategy to make more cuts rather than to raise revenue through tuition. The tuition has increased \$2.00 per credit hour.

England reviewed with the Board that the enrollment at DMACC was increasing, however, it was increasing in Ankeny and West Des Moines, not the downtown or east side areas. He felt that population needed to be reached, not only for their own individual success but also for the success of the economy. Dr. England emphasized that to attract a workforce it is indicated that you need a split in the qualifications of your workforce of 20 percent bachelor's degrees, 60 percent technical degrees and 20 percent unskilled—that is the ideal mix.

England also expressed a concern that about 40 percent of our teachers are nearing retirement age and the fact that community colleges will not

be able to compete in salaries. This will reduce the quality of the faculty. Eleven full-time positions had been eliminated, 6 were administrative. He indicated tremendous cuts had been made in the part time faculty and student support staff salaries and five instructional programs were eliminated. He indicated that when you do not have a supply of instructors you must turn away students. The fall applications that had been received in the last three weeks are showing an increase of 30 percent. Technical programs are the next step if the budget predictions stay on course because in the funding distribution there is no differential funding for technical programs. Therefore, you make money on the liberal arts courses and lose money on the technical courses.

England reviewed some of the funding changes DMACC will need to make in shifting dollars to priority areas and to best serve the clients.

Jim Billings commented on the flexibility that community colleges need to have during these budget times and be creative in brainstorming new ways to offer scholarships and programming that best fit the needs of the students.

Director Stilwill handed out proposed topics for the June State Board meeting.

President Gene Vincent adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

Gene Vincent, President

Ted Stilwill, Director and
Executive Officer

